Summary of Research Unit Activities
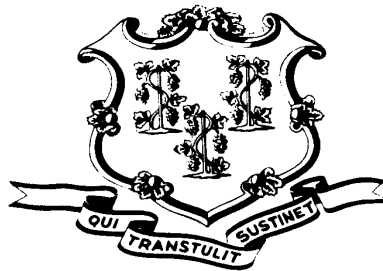
Presented to:

Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
April 30, 2010

CJPPD - Research Unit

- Hiring two new staff members has allowed the Research Unit to expand its work.
- Current on-going work:
  - Prison Population Forecast
  - Monthly Indicators Report
  - Recidivism
    - Recidivism analysis: 10,008 CT prisoners released in 2011
    - Report published on recidivism among prisoners released in 2008
  - The Walker Interview Project
  - The Mapping Initiative
  - Census Studies
  - Case Studies, and
  - Technical Assistance – the CRU Unit

2015 Prison Population Forecast

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2015 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '15	16,204	-	-
FEB	16,302	16,343	41
MAR	16,124	16,136	12
APR	16,161	16,079	(82)
MAY	-	16,052	-
JUN	-	16,039	-
JUL	-	16,061	-
AUG	-	16,078	-
SEP	-	16,085	-
OCT	-	16,117	-
NOV	-	16,112	-
DEC	-	15,948	-
JAN '16	-	15,686	-
FEB	-	15,917	-

Avg. Daily Count (ADC) for 1st week of month
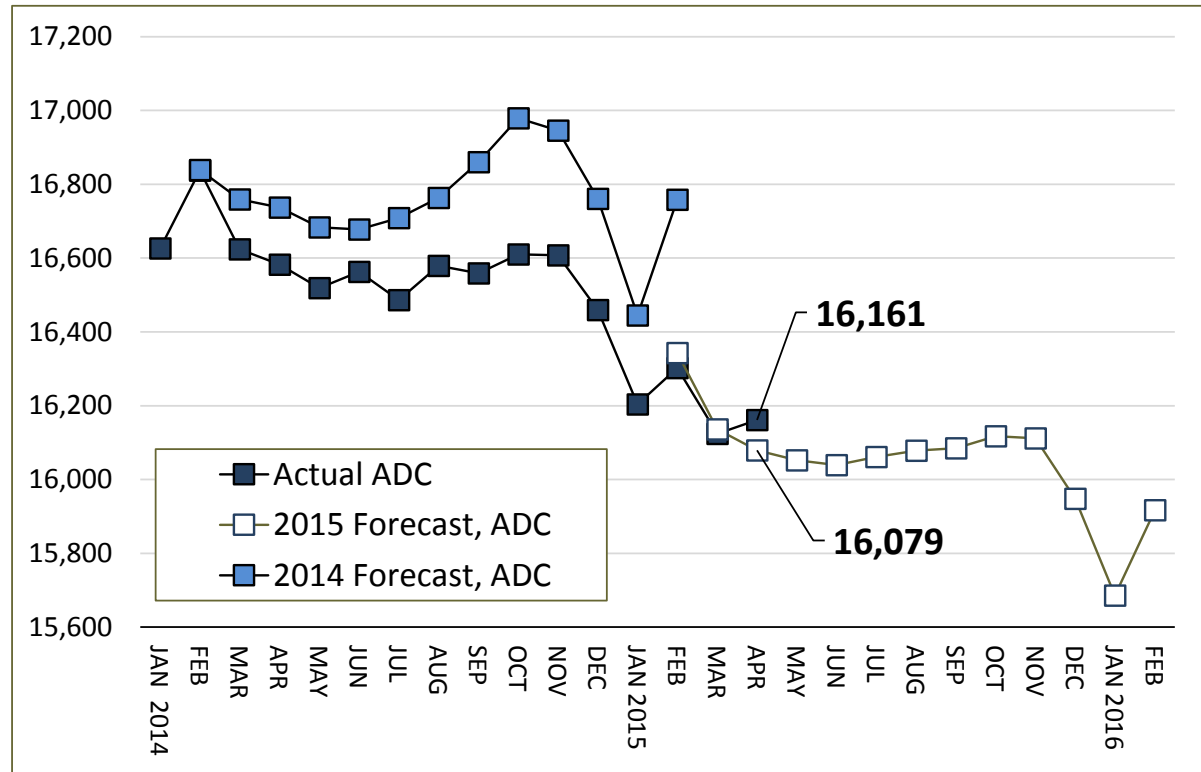
- **OPM projects moderate contraction in the size of the prison population over the coming year.**
- **If the forecast is accurate, the population will dip below 16,000 by December 1st.**
- **July 1998 was the last month in which the prison population was below 16,000.**

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division
Recidivism in CT, 2008 releases

Highlights

- During 2008, 16,286 men and women were released or discharged from CT DOC custody. Within the next three years:

  - 64% had been re-arrested,

  - 54% had been readmitted to prison for at least one day,

  - 51% had been convicted for a new offense, and

  - 37% had been returned to prison to begin a new term of incarceration.

- Recidivism rates among ex-offenders have been relatively stable in recent years. Among offenders released or discharged in 2004, 2005 and 2008, about 37% were sentenced to new prison terms within 3 years.

- Most offenders who return to prison do not return for violent crimes. Approximately 50% of offenders, who were released from prison in 2008 and subsequently arrested and charged with a felony, within a year of release, were charged for drug offenses.

- The state lacks solid, empirical information on the circumstances of most offenders once they leave prison. As a result, state policymakers are unable to speak with certainty about the factors driving persistent recidivism rates in the state. Although significant resources are expended on re-entry, the failure to collect critical information on offenders once they leave prison makes it almost impossible to measure the quality and effectiveness of state-funded prisoner re-entry initiatives.

How is recidivism measured?

The Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division (CJPPD) at OPM regularly collects and analyzes criminal justice data on offenders in the state's prison system.

In this analysis, CJPPD has calculated three-year recidivism rates for 16,286 sentenced offenders who were released or discharged from DOC custody during 2008. The data was supplied by the Department of Correction (DOC) and the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division (CSSD). Four separate measures of recidivism are presented: 1) new arrests 2) any return to prison 3) new convictions, and 4) returns to prison to begin a new sentence.

Recidivism rates, prisoners released in 2008

	Time since 2008 release or discharge			
	Six months	One year	Two years	Three years
New arrest	23%	39%	56%	64%
Return to prison	21%	34%	47%	54%
New conviction	8%	21%	39%	51%
New sentence	5%	13%	27%	37%

In several respects, 2008 was a landmark year for criminal justice policy in Connecticut. In the aftermath of a brutal and sensational triple-murder in Cheshire, Governor Jodie Rell suspended parole releases in 2007. Within months, the prison count swelled by almost 1,000 inmates. By February 1, 2008, the prison population reached 19,894, its historic high. Later in the year, new legislation strengthened penalties for certain crimes, restructured the state's parole Board, and boosted investment in efforts to improve data gathering and information sharing among criminal justice agencies. For most of 2008, the DOC labored to house and process a backlog of offenders who in other circumstances would likely have been released to parole.
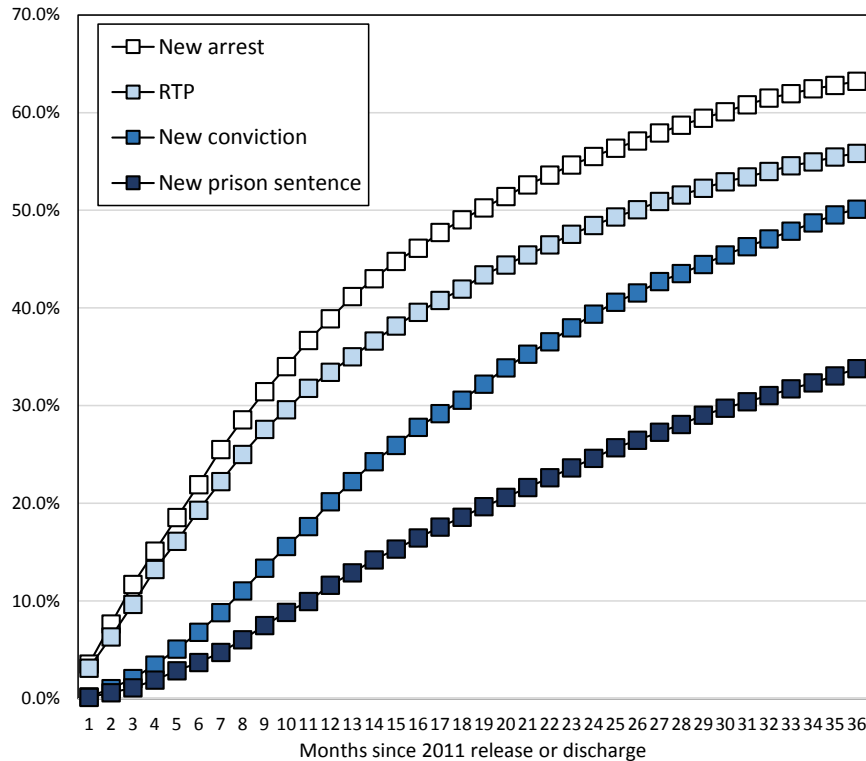
Three-year recidivism rates, inmates released or discharged in 2008
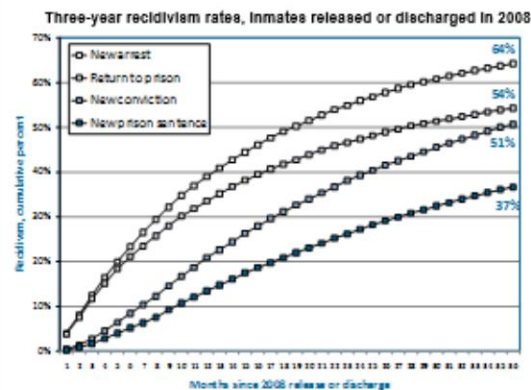
Just released:
## Recidivism study – 2008 cohort

- **Study tracks 16,000+ offenders who were released or discharged from DOC custody in 2008.**

- **Looks at recidivism by age, gender, risk profile and release status.**

- **Also looks at types of new criminal activity, institutional behavior prior to release and RREC.**

- **Most of the analysis was performed in 2013 and 2014. Findings were shared at various CJ venues.**

- **CJPPD is also preparing to release recidivism analysis of data for offenders release in 2011.**

- **The report is available on the OPM-CJPPD website:**
  http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjsac/20150424recidivsm_report_february_2015.pdf

Recidivism, 2011 cohort

Recidivism, 2011 release cohort, men

Recidivsm, 2011 release cohort, women
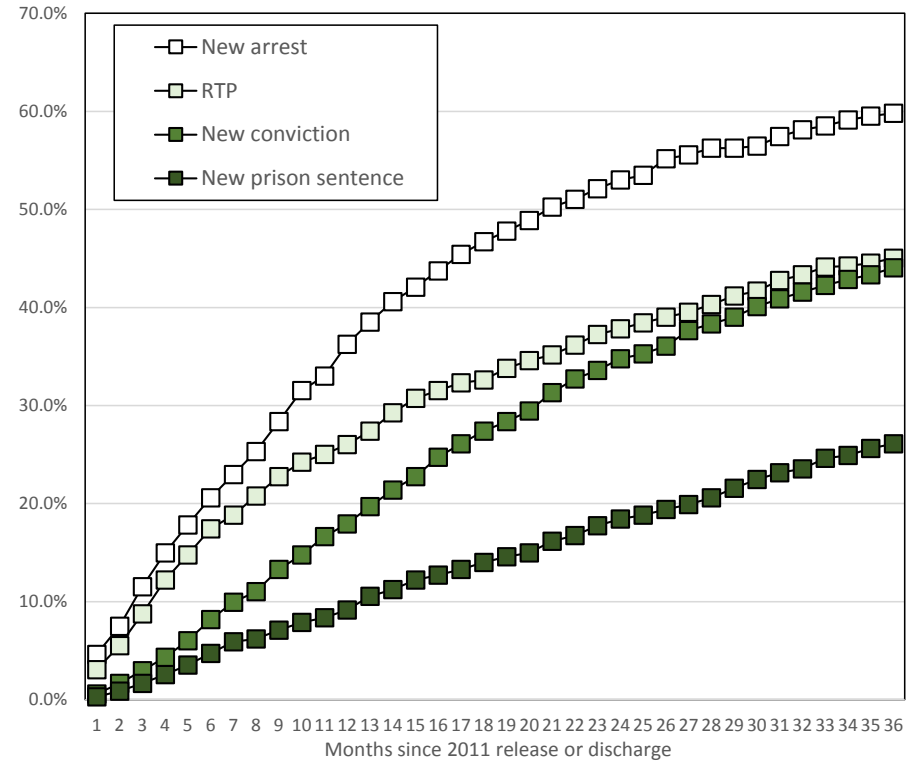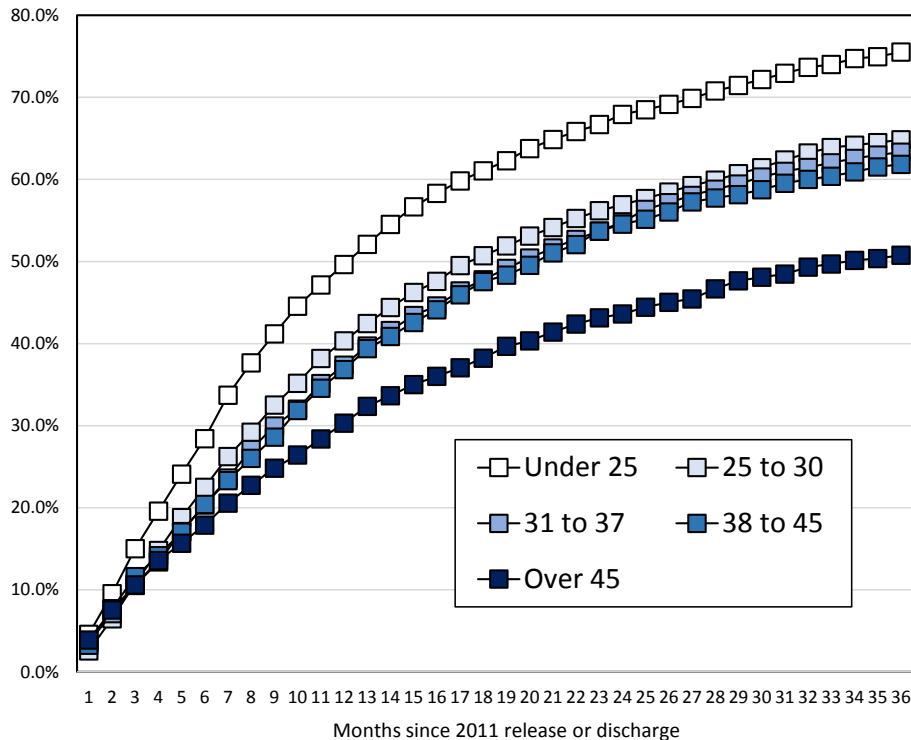

Recidivsm rates - 2011 cohort, 8,993 men

	New arrest	Return to prison	New conviction	New prison sentence
12 month rate	39%	33%	20%	12%
24 month rate	56%	48%	39%	25%
36 month rate	63%	56%	50%	34%

Recidivsm rates - 2011 cohort, 1,015 women

	New arrest	Return to prison	New conviction	New prison sentence
12 month rate	36%	26%	18%	9%
24 month rate	53%	38%	35%	18%
36 month rate	60%	45%	44%	26%

Recidivism, arrests – gender and age

New arrest rate, men released in 2011 by age quintile

New arrest rate, women released in 2011 by age quintile

Months since 2011 release or discharge

Months since 2011 release or discharge

Recidivsm (new arrests) - 2011 cohort, 8,993 men

	All men	Under 25	25 to 30	31 to 37	38 to 45	Over 45
12 month rate	39%	50%	40%	37%	37%	30%
24 month rate	56%	68%	57%	55%	55%	44%
36 month rate	63%	76%	65%	63%	62%	51%
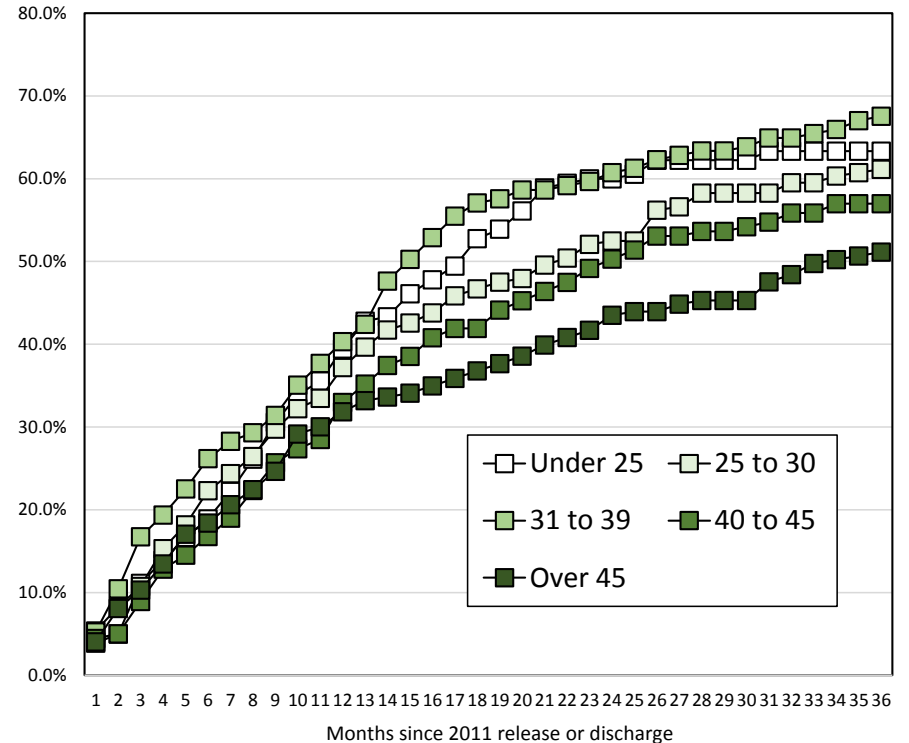
Recidivism (new arrests) - 2011 cohort, 1,015 women

	All women	Under 25	25 to 30	31 to 39	40 to 45	Over 45
12 month rate	36%	39%	37%	40%	33%	32%
24 month rate	53%	60%	52%	61%	50%	43%
36 month rate	60%	63%	61%	68%	57%	51%

Recidivism, prison sentence – gender and age

New prison sentence, 2011 male cohort by age quintile
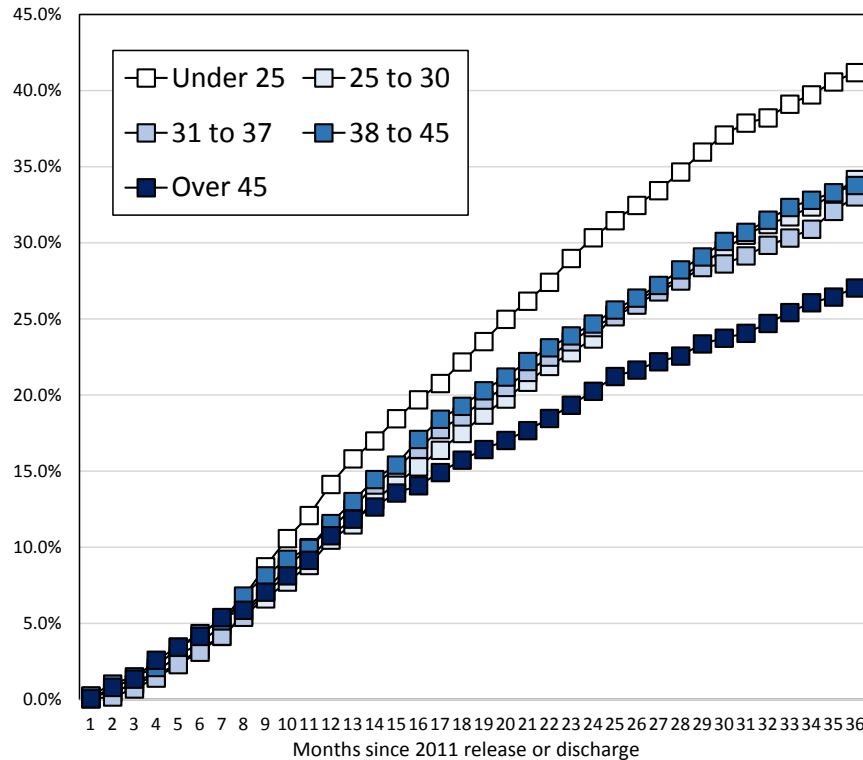
New prison sentence, 2011 female cohort by age quintile
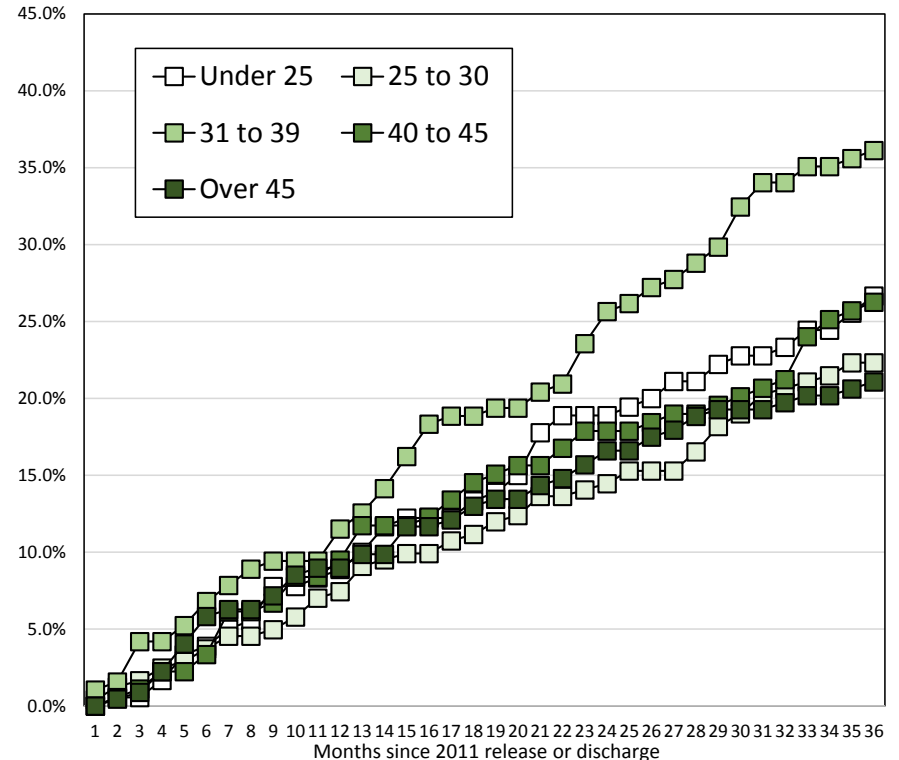
Recidivsm (new prison sentence) - 8,993 men

	All men	Under 25	25 to 30	31 to 37	38 to 45	Over 45
12 month rate	12%	14%	10%	11%	12%	11%
24 month rate	25%	30%	24%	24%	25%	20%
36 month rate	34%	41%	34%	33%	34%	27%

Recidivsm (new prison sentence) - 1,015 women

	All women	Under 25	25 to 30	31 to 37	38 to 45	Over 45
12 month rate	9%	9%	7%	12%	9%	9%
24 month rate	18%	19%	14%	26%	18%	17%
36 month rate	26%	27%	22%	36%	26%	21%

3-year recidivism – new prison sentence – women, age and the number of prison sentences prior to 2011 release
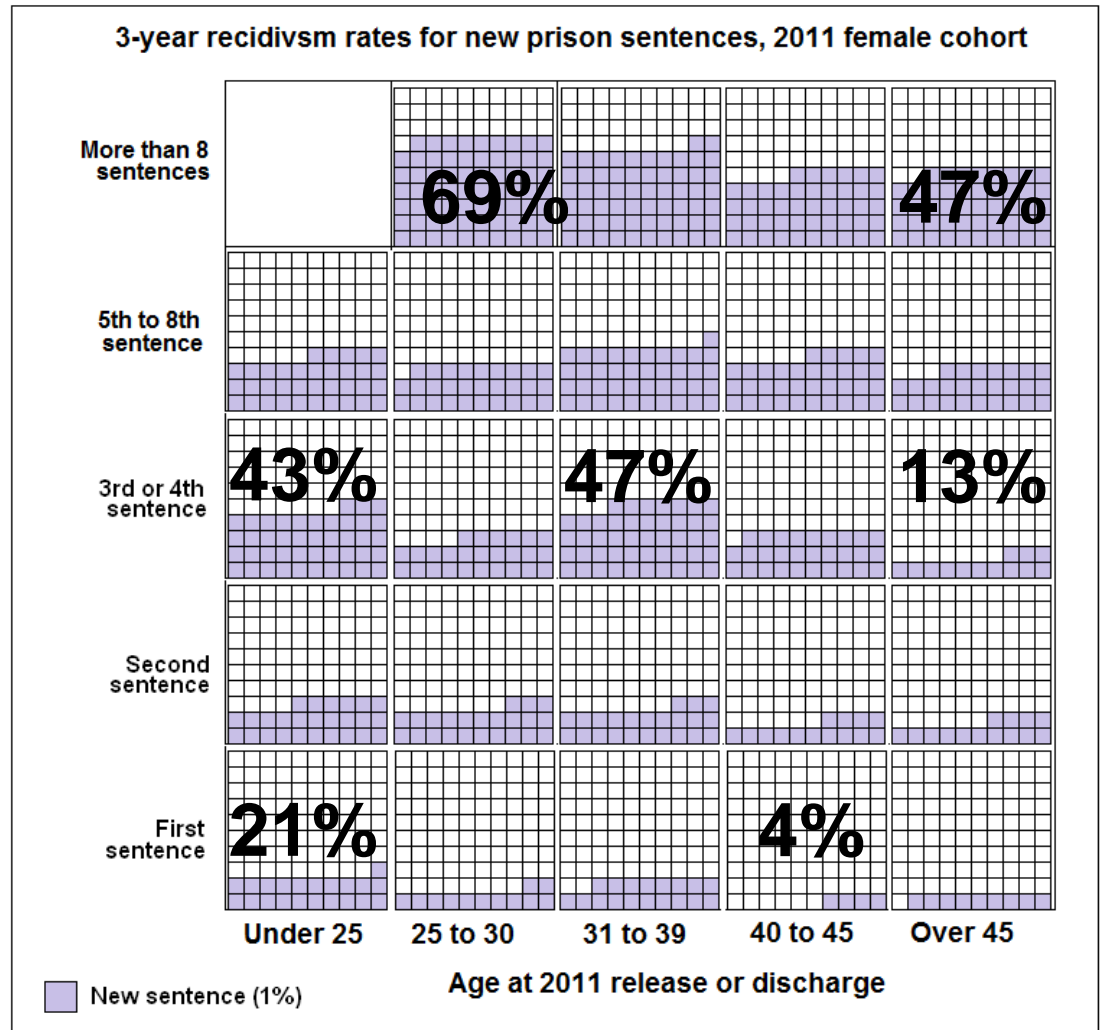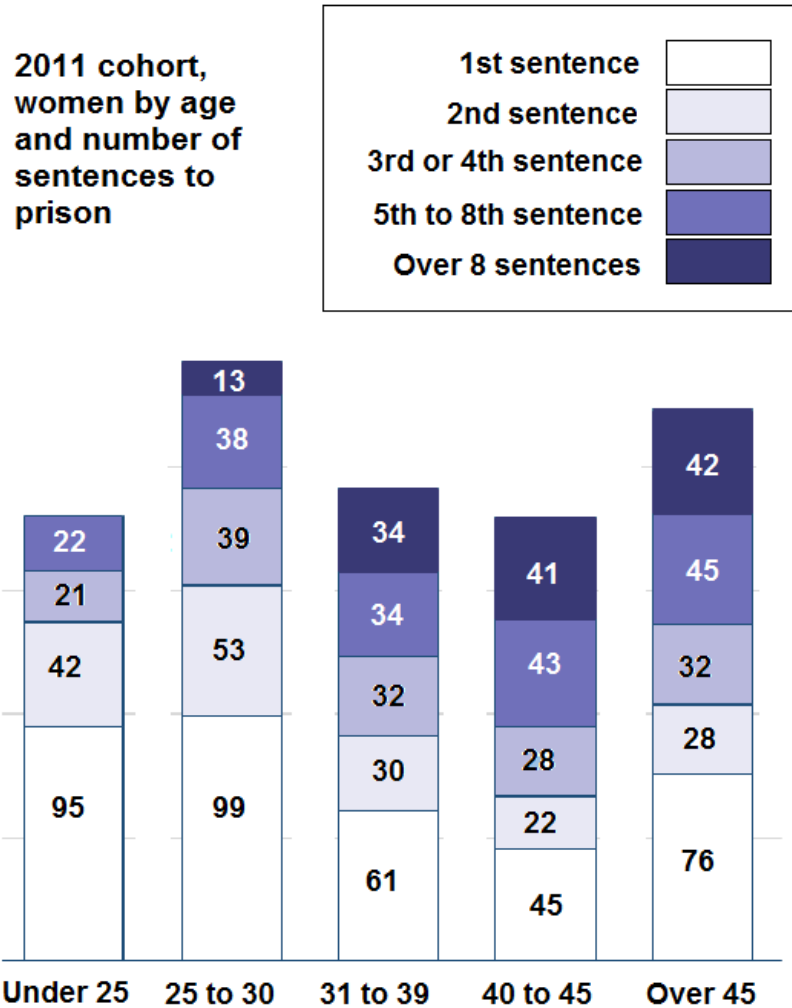
3-year recidivism – new prison sentence – men, age and the number of prison sentences prior to 2011 release

2011 cohort, men by age and number of sentences to prison

Legend:
- 1st sentence
- 2nd sentence
- 3rd or 4th sentence
- 5th to 8th sentence
- Over 8 sentences

Under 25: 248, 452, 385, 666

25 to 30: 200, 574, 486, 316, 420

31 to 37: 413, 491, 316, 200, 282

38 to 45: 704, 364, 225, 134, 234

Over 45: 653, 354, 273, 194, 383

3-year recidivism rates for new prison sentences, 2011 male cohort

55% 50% 18% 31% 8%

8th sentence or higher
5th, 6th or 7th sentence
3rd or 4th sentence
Second sentence
First sentence

Under 25   25 to 30   31 to 37   38 to 45   Over 45

Age at 2011 release or discharge

New sentence (1%)

The most accomplished recidivator in 2008

A <u>50-year old</u> man was the most accomplished recidivator in the 8,993-man 2008 release cohort.
- First DOC admit: 1976 as an 18-year old pre-trial detainee
- Total number of DOC admits prior to 2008 release: 218
- Total number of sentenced to prison (dockets): 92
- Total number of charges on dockets: 114
  - 36 for breach of peace
  - 30 for disorderly conduct
  - 9 petty larcenies, and
  - 9 counts of criminal mischief.
- He served time for six felonies (assault on a police or fire officer (3), assault 2 (1), burglary 3 (1) and reckless burning (1).
- Longest prison sentence: 2 years
- DOC records indicate he had a serious substance abuse problem requiring intensive residential or out-patient treatment.
- Not surprisingly, this offender has returned to prison several times since 2008, all on misdemeanor charges.
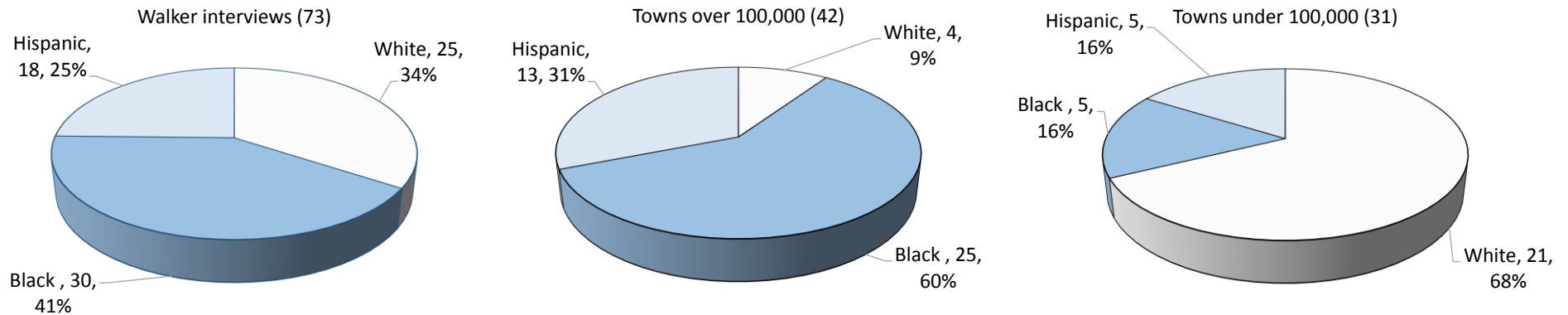
The Walker Project – 73 interview mark
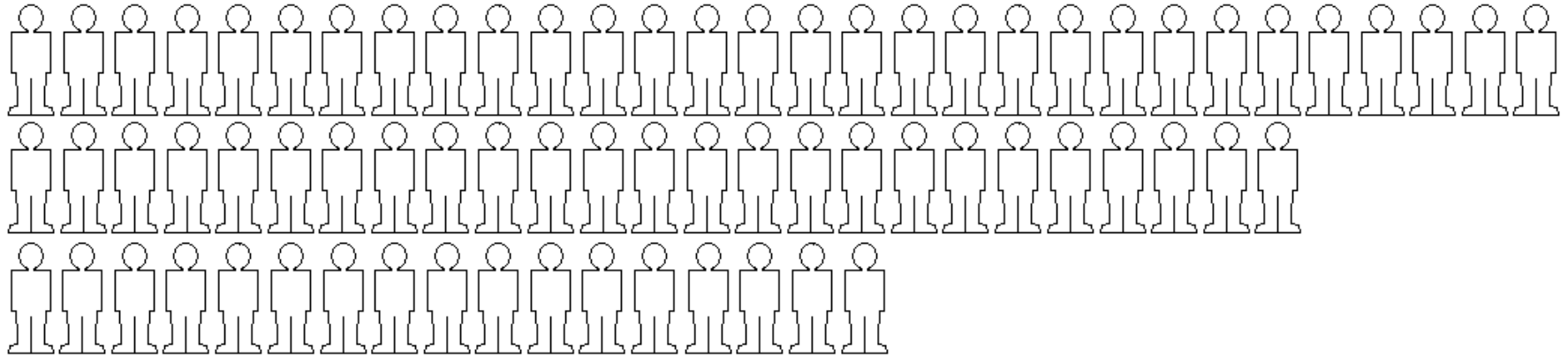
- **Thanks to Commissioner Semple and his staff, CJPPD's research unit has had the ability to perform interviews with offenders at Walker CI.**
- **The intent is to collect information – at this central classification unit - on the circumstances of CT offenders before they enter/re-enter the prison system.**
- **Open-ended interviews explore childhood, families, violence, education, employment, criminality, incarceration and the legal system.**

The Walker Project

Study participants at Walker CI

One | Two | Three or four | Five to seven | 10 or more

The Walker Project - Demographics

Walker interviews (73)

- Hispanic, 18, 25%
- White, 25, 34%
- Black, 30, 41%

Towns over 100,000 (42)

- Hispanic, 13, 31%
- White, 4, 9%
- Black, 25, 60%

Towns under 100,000 (31)
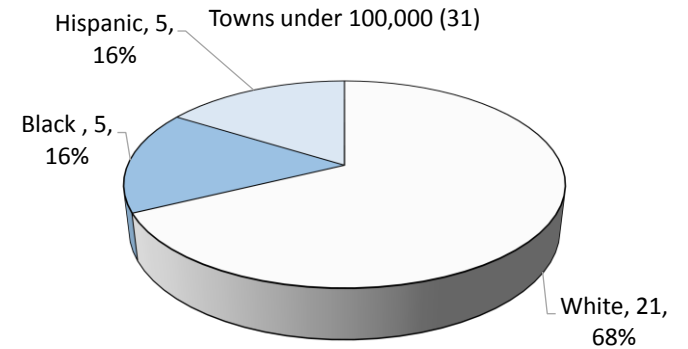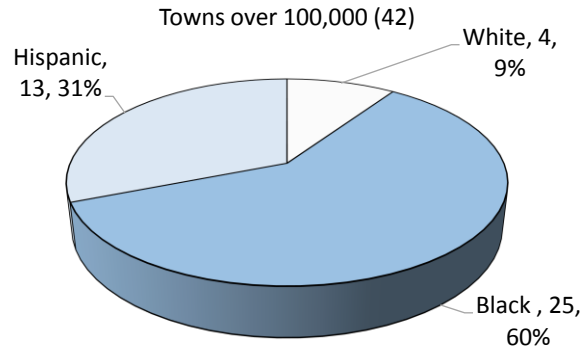
- Hispanic, 5, 16%
- Black, 5, 16%
- White, 21, 68%

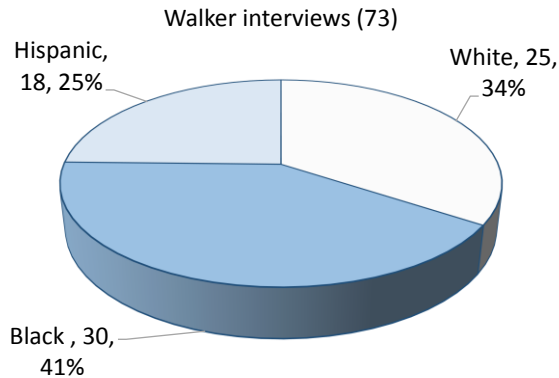**A glaring racial and ethnic divide exists between the state's urban and suburban communities.**

- **85% of whites came from cities and towns of under 100,000 people**
- **80% of blacks and 73% Hispanics came from the state's five largest cities.**

- CT towns with population over 100,000: Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford & Waterbury
- Significant violence includes shooting, stabbing, robbery or other significant assault
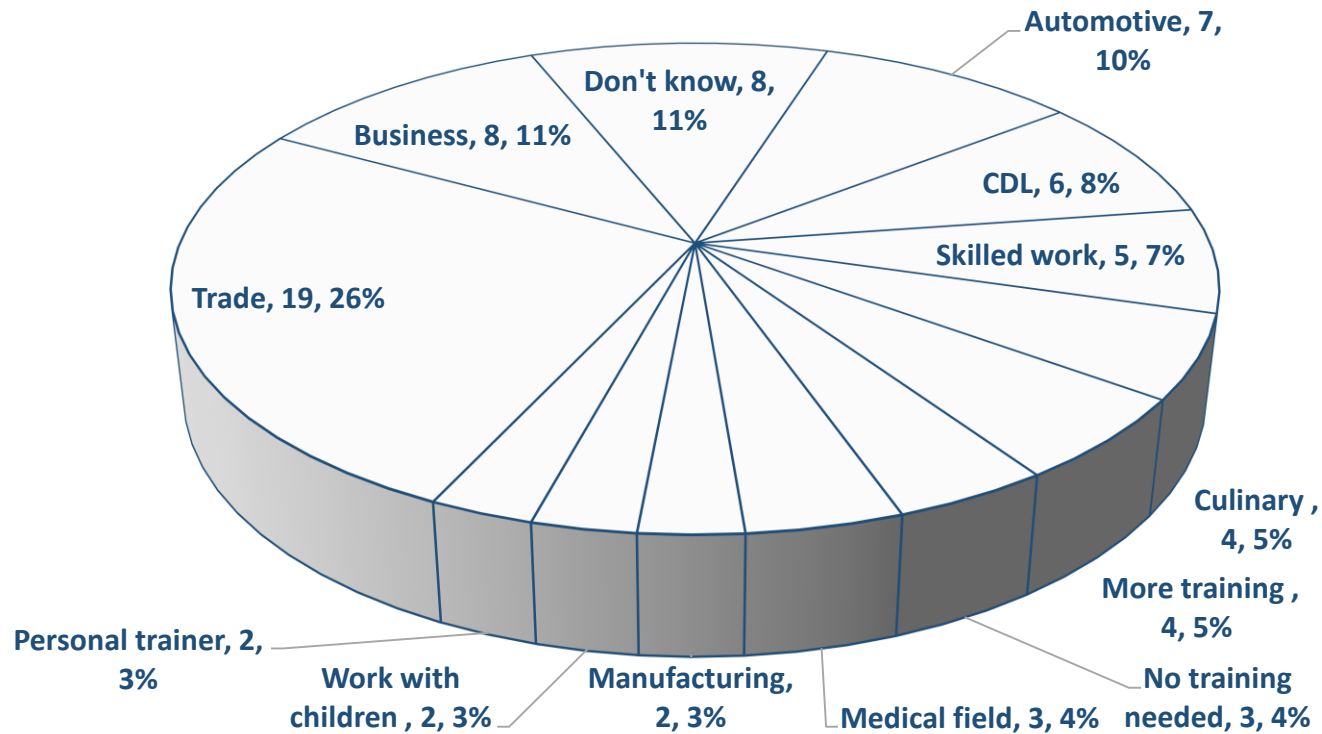
Most significant finding - victimized offenders?

Walker interviews (73)
- White, 25, 34%
- Black, 30, 41%
- Hispanic, 18, 25%

Towns over 100,000 (42)
- White, 4, 9%
- Black, 25, 60%
- Hispanic, 13, 31%

Towns under 100,000 (31)
- White, 21, 68%
- Black, 5, 16%
- Hispanic, 5, 16%

	Shot?			Stabbed?			Victim of significant violence?			Family or friend, victims of violence			Incarcerated family members?		
	All	Urban	Non-urban	All	Urban	Non-urban	All	Urban	Non-urban	All	Urban	Non-urban	All	Urban	Non-urban
White	0	0	0	3	1	2	13	2	11	6	1	5	11	3	8
Black	11	11	0	6	5	1	26	21	5	14	14	0	26	23	3
Hispanic	4	4	0	4	3	1	14	10	4	6	5	1	14	10	4
Total	15	15	0	13	9	4	53	33	20	26	20	6	51	36	15
White	0%	0%	0%	12%	25%	10%	52%	50%	52%	24%	25%	24%	44%	75%	38%
Black	37%	44%	0%	20%	20%	20%	87%	84%	100%	47%	56%	0%	87%	92%	60%
Hispanic	22%	31%	0%	22%	23%	20%	78%	77%	80%	33%	38%	20%	78%	77%	80%
Total	21%	36%	0%	18%	21%	13%	73%	79%	65%	36%	48%	19%	70%	86%	48%

- CT towns with population over 100,000: Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford & Waterbury
- Significant violence includes shooting, stabbing, robbery or other significant assault
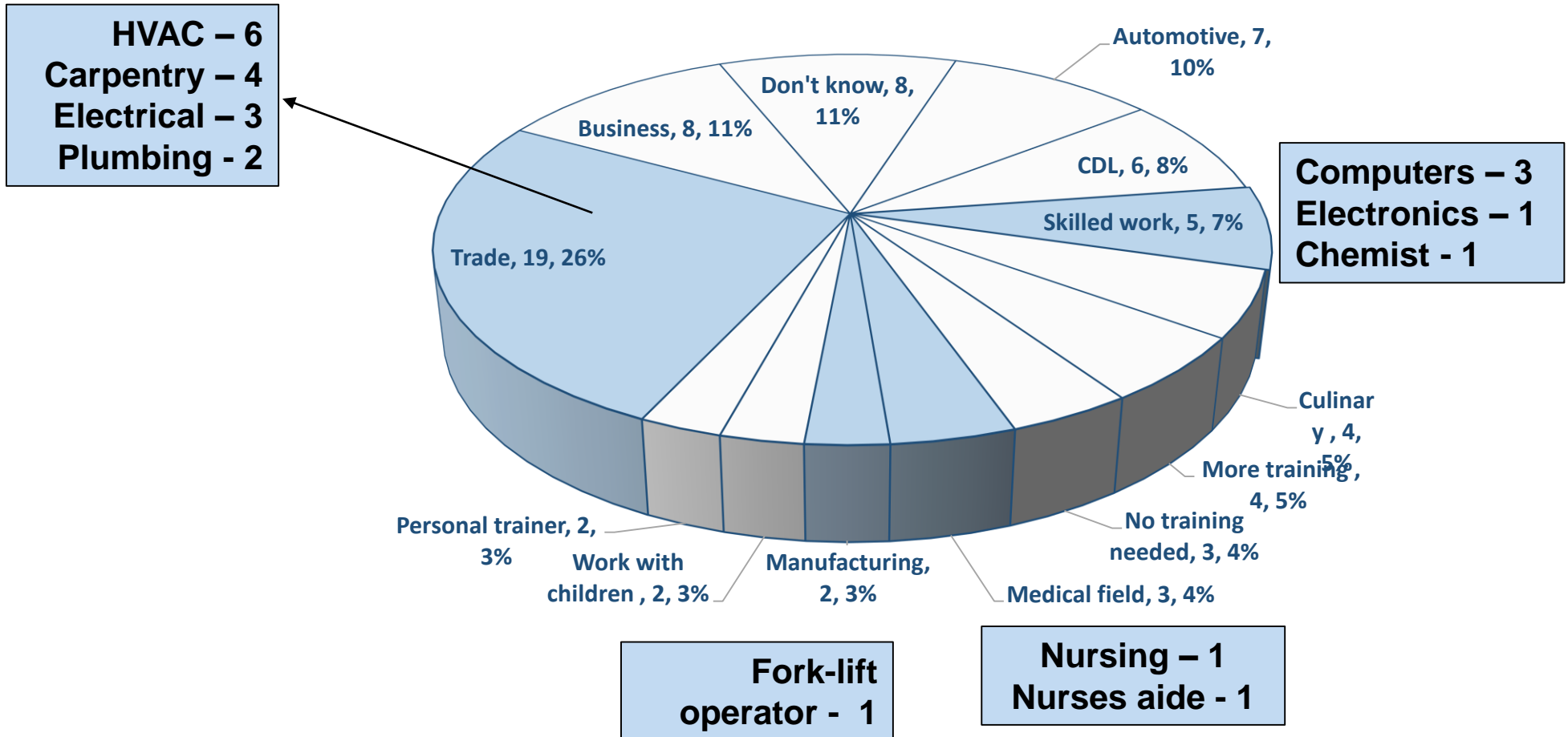
Questionnaire

If you could be trained for any job skill, what would it be?

Pie chart data:
- Automotive, 7, 10%
- CDL, 6, 8%
- Skilled work, 5, 7%
- Culinary, 4, 5%
- More training, 4, 5%
- No training needed, 3, 4%
- Medical field, 3, 4%
- Manufacturing, 2, 3%
- Work with children, 2, 3%
- Personal trainer, 2, 3%
- Trade, 19, 26%
- Business, 8, 11%
- Don't know, 8, 11%

Questionnaire

If you could be trained for any job skill, what would it be?

HVAC – 6
Carpentry – 4
Electrical – 3
Plumbing - 2

Automotive, 7, 10%

Don't know, 8, 11%

Business, 8, 11%

CDL, 6, 8%

Skilled work, 5, 7%

Trade, 19, 26%

Computers – 3
Electronics – 1
Chemist - 1

Culinary, 4, 5%

More training, 4, 5%

No training needed, 3, 4%

Personal trainer, 2, 3%

Work with children , 2, 3%

Manufacturing, 2, 3%

Medical field, 3, 4%

Fork-lift operator - 1

Nursing – 1
Nurses aide - 1

Finding: Work expectations are quite reasonable.

Questionnaire – civic engagement

Have you ever voted?

	Urban	Non-urban	All
Black	32%	20%	30%
Hispanic	15%	20%	17%
White	50%	48%	48%
All	29%	39%	33%

Would you call the police if you needed help?

	Black	Hispanic	White
Yes	37%	44%	52%
No	30%	44%	28%
Conditional	27%	6%	16%
Null	7%	6%	4%
Offenders	30	18	25

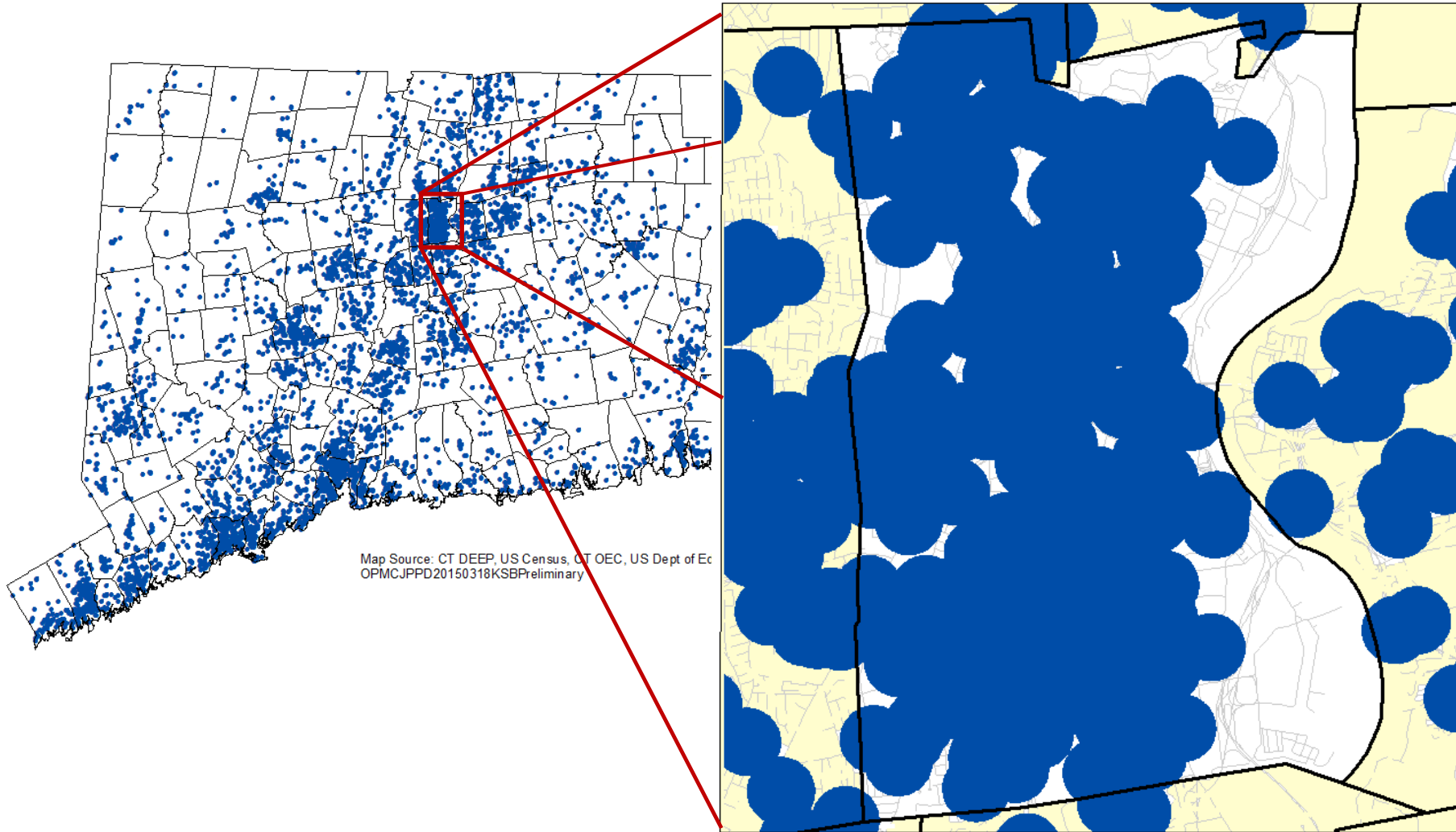# Opioid related deaths in CT – 2004 to 2014
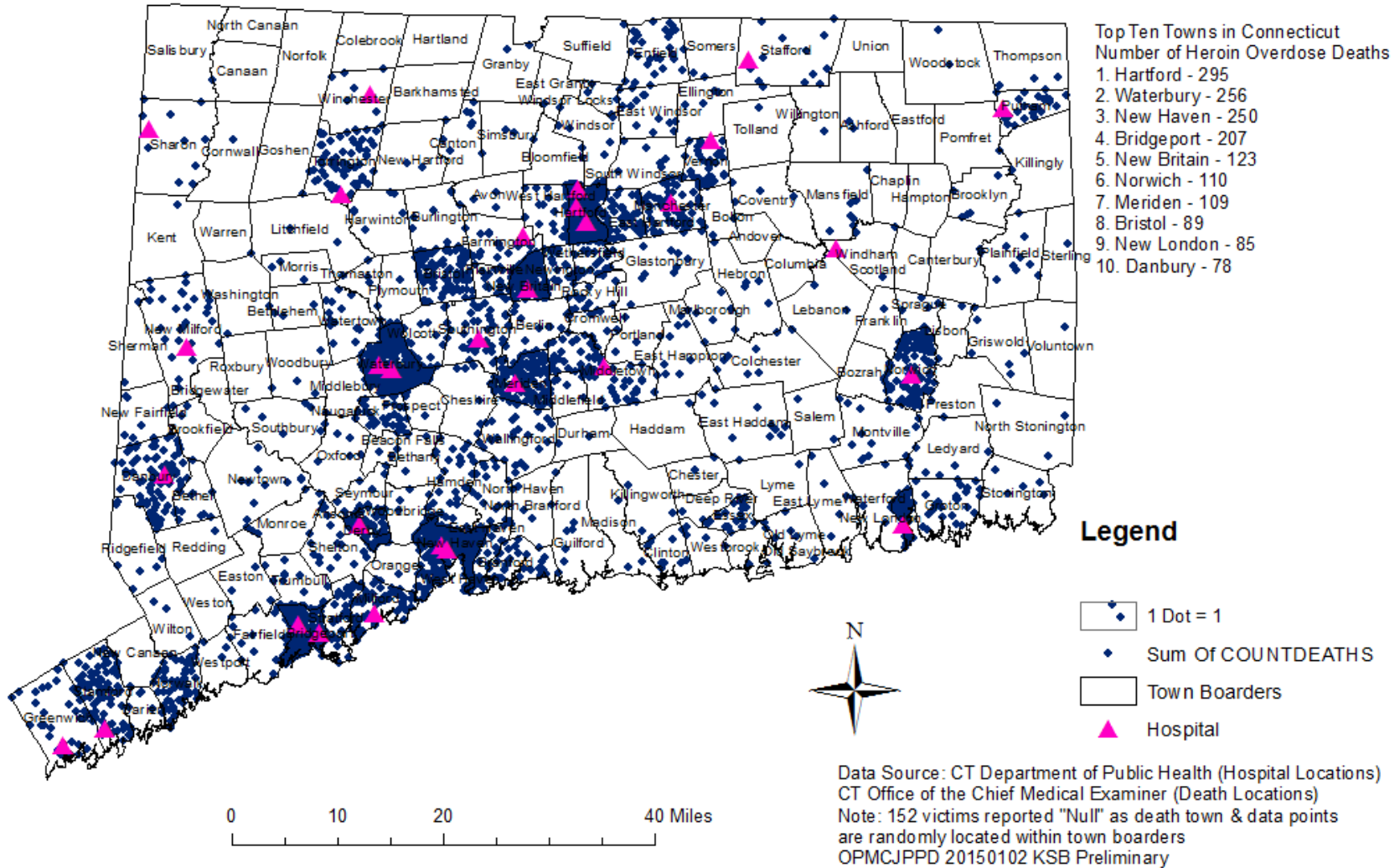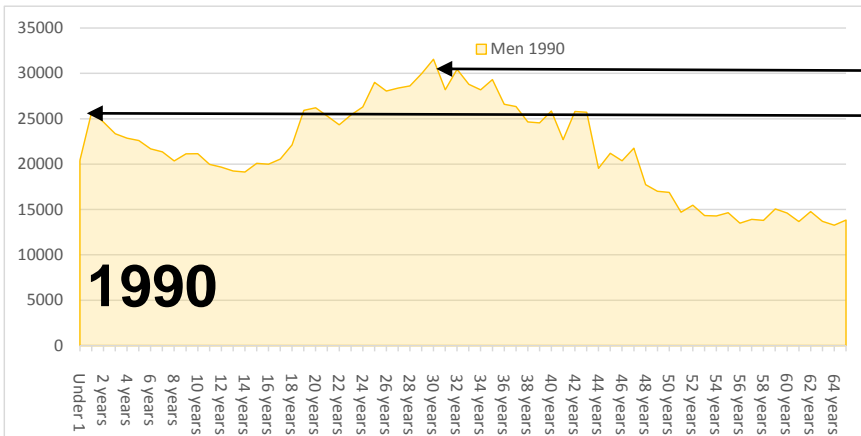
Map – gun related homicides 2004 through 2014
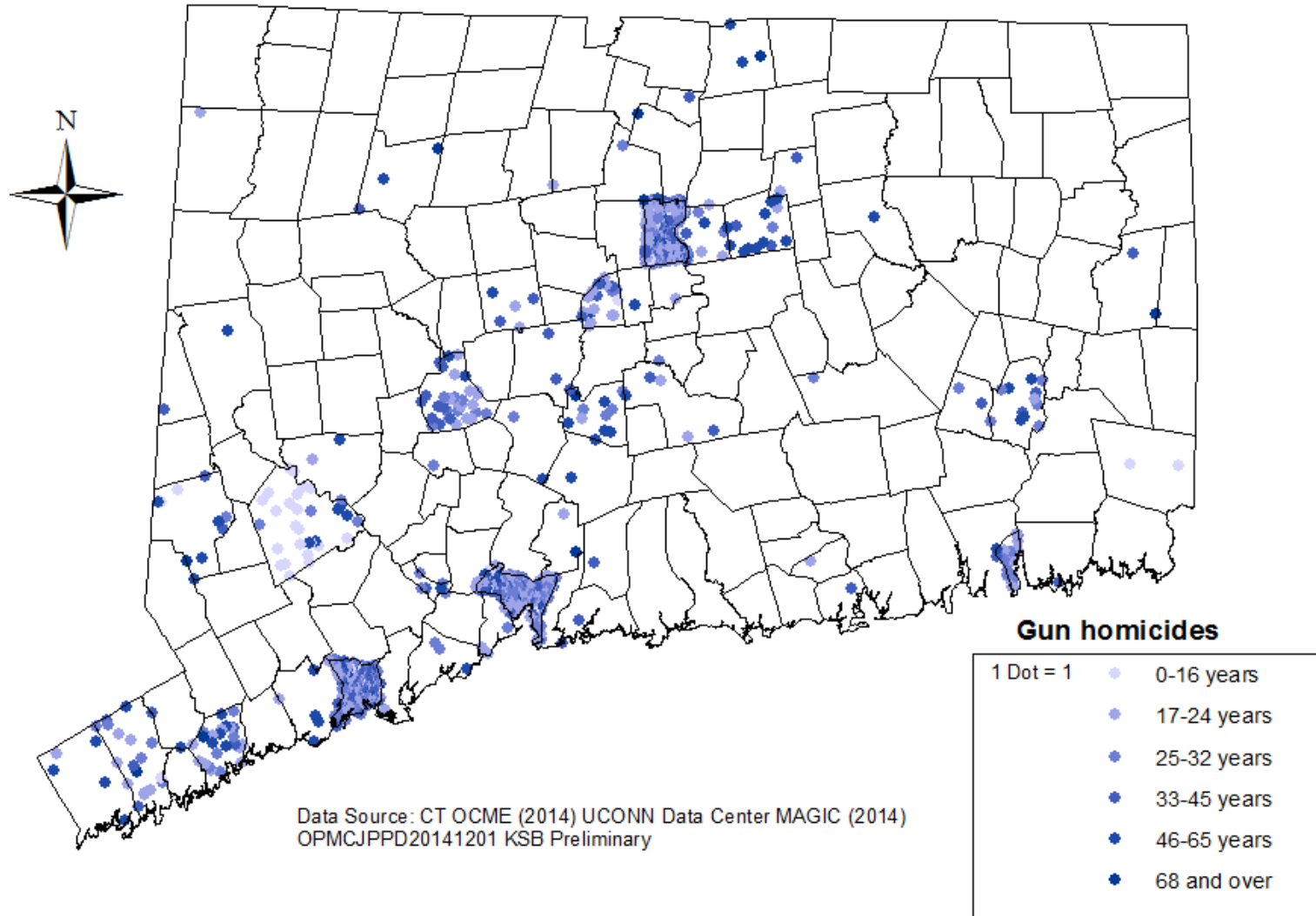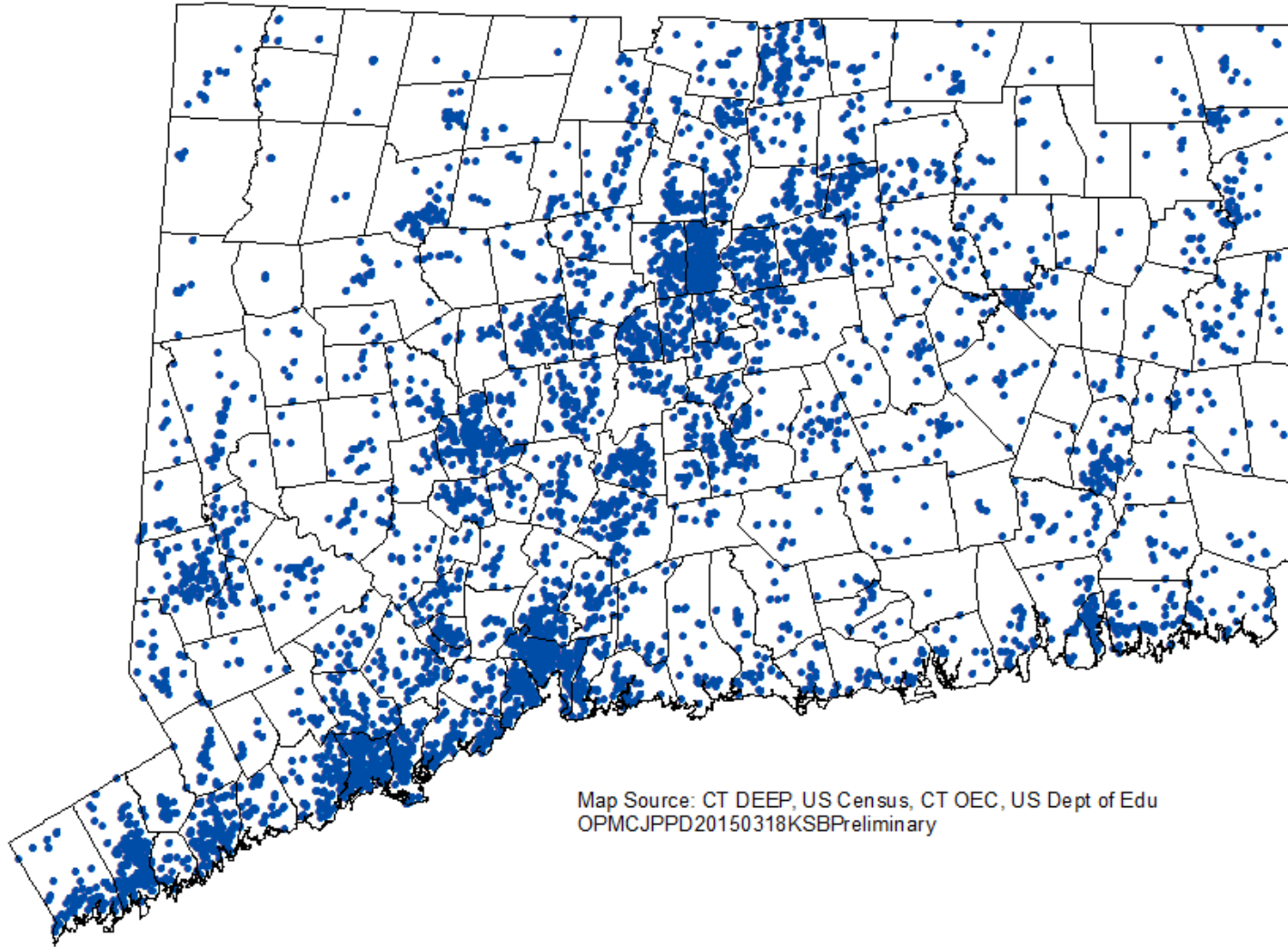
Data Source: CT OCME (2014) UCONN Data Center MAGIC (2014)
OPMCJPPD20141201 KSB Preliminary

Gun homicides

1 Dot = 1

- 0-16 years
- 17-24 years
- 25-32 years
- 33-45 years
- 46-65 years
- 68 and over

Proposed residential exclusion zones for sex offenders in CT

Map Source: CT DEEP, US Census, CT OEC, US Dept of Edu
OPMCJPPD20150318KSBPreliminary

Proposed residential exclusion zones for sex offenders in CT

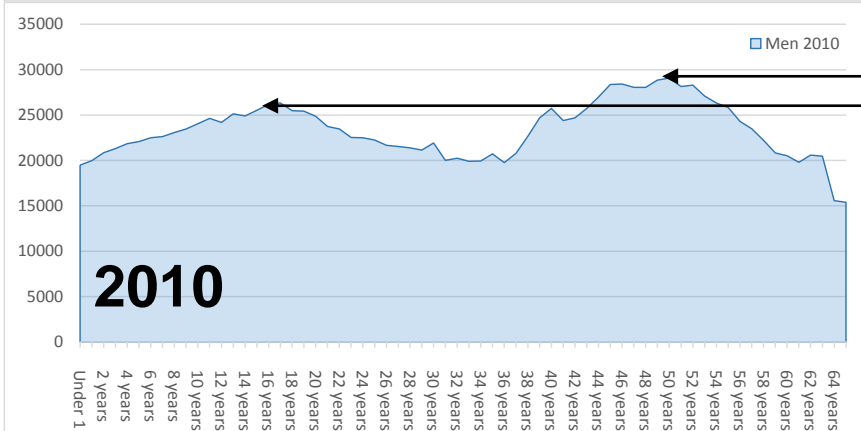Map Source: CT DEEP, US Census, CT OEC, US Dept of Ed
OPMCJPPD20150318KSBPreliminary

US Census – Male population in CT

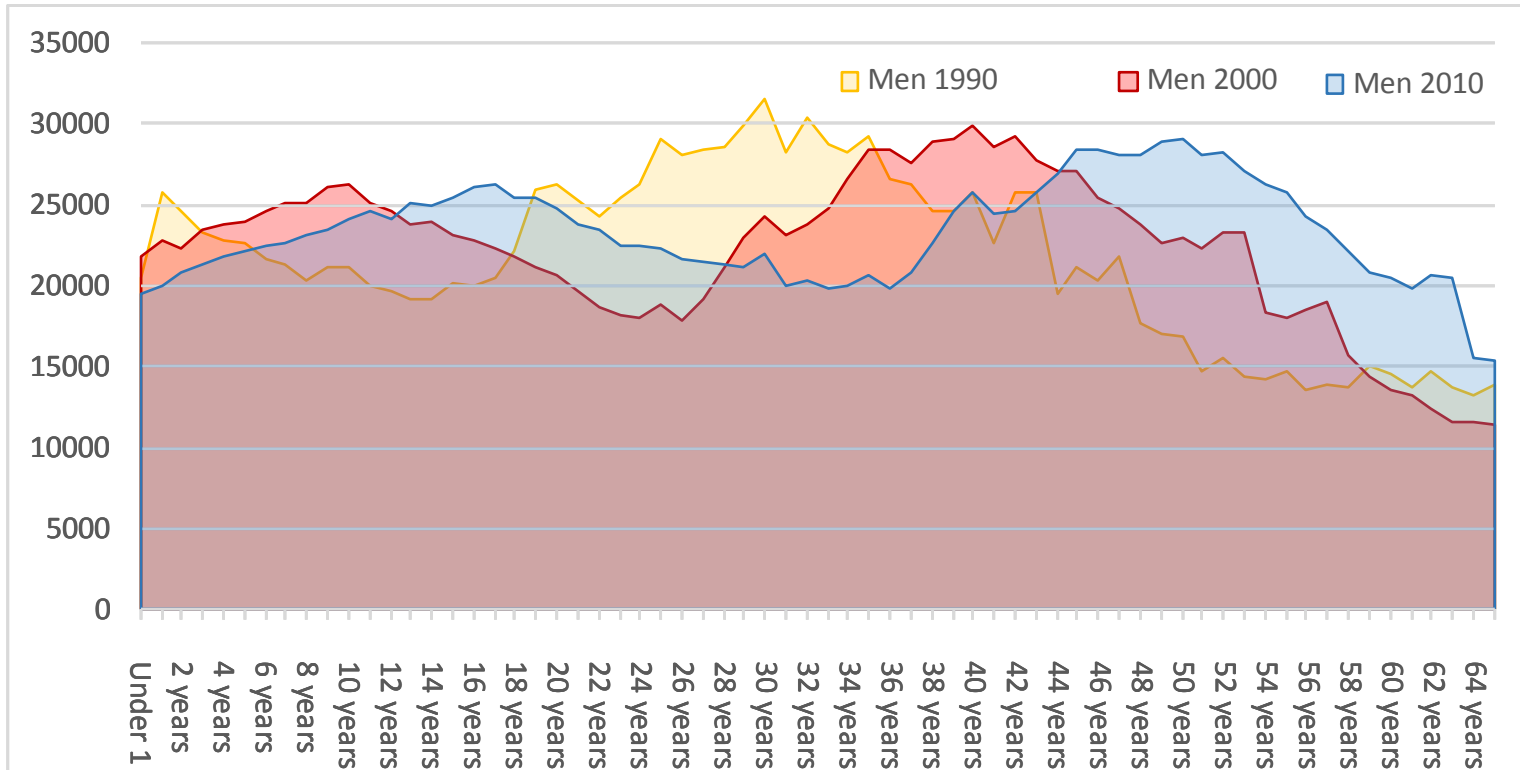**1990**

31 years, 31,558 men
2 years, 25,760 boys

2000
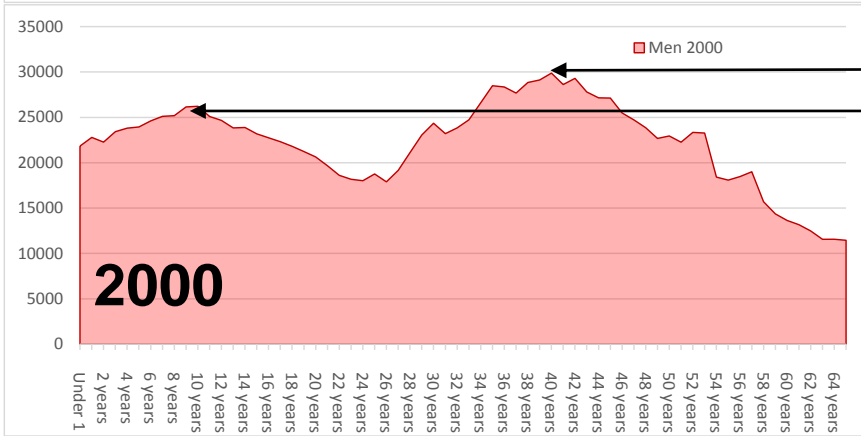
40 years, 29,877 men
11 years, 26,211 boys

2010

50 years, 29,092 men
17 years, 26,331 boys

US Census – Male population in CT

Case Studies and technical assistance

- DOC's new Central Re-entry Unit
  - forward planning
  - reporting
  - data collection
  - Implementation
- Case studies
  - Ability to investigate specific cases on short notice
  - Reporting to inform, education and improve processes
  - "A teachable moment"
- DOC Institutional Memory Project
  - Lost institutional memory
  - Video interviews of retired DOC employee